Shortfall in profit of MCL

3209. SHRI MANMOHAN SAMAL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortfall in the profit of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the amount of profit MCL has earned during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (c) There has been a slight fall in the profits of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as compared to the profits earned in 1997-98. The profits earned by MCL during the last five years are as follows:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Amount
1995-96	336.06
1996-97	326.65
1997-98	654.11
1998-99	601.31
1999-2000	607.65

Decontrolling prices of coal extracted by CIL and its subsidiaries

†3210. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fully decontrolled the prices of coal extracted by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries;

(b) if so, how the interests of the consumer would be protected; and

(c) whether the State Governments have got any benefit by the increased prices?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.